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ALISON SUDOL: A FINE FRENZY INDEED {page 22}

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BOSTON
Thursday, October 25, 2012

Court expected to rule on sealed Romney testimony

- Republican presidential candidate testified in 1991 divorce case of Staples founder, but documents were sealed
- Celebrity gossip website TMZ.com reporting that Romney lied under oath about Staples' financial value {page 02}

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

Hostel. Environment

▶ Londoner Eyre Kurasawa relaxes at the new Hostelling International location on Stuart Street in Boston. She is one of 12 million domestic and international tourists who visit the Hub annually, some forming not-so-nice opinions about Bostonians. {page 02}

sports

NFL power rankings

- Patriots remain in Top 10, but barely
- NFC continues its dominance {page 24}

the word

The Simpsons' gay father?

- No, not Homer
- It may be why Ashlee and Jessica's dad is getting divorced {page 12}

When casual sex gets dull

{page 16}

Judge could decide on Romney's testimony today

A judge will hear more arguments today on whether decades-old testimony given by Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney in a business partner's divorce case should be released.

Romney testified in the 1991 divorce of Tom Stemberg, the founder of Staples, and Maureen Sullivan Stemberg. The testimony has been under seal, and the Globe is seeking its release. The newspaper is only requesting Romney's testimony.

Sullivan Stemberg, who is represented by Los Angeles attorney Gloria Allred, told the Norfolk Probate and Family Court yesterday that she does not object to the release of the testimony, according to the Globe.

The hearing was continued to today because lawyers for Romney and Stemberg said they needed more time to review the documents, according to the Globe.

A statement from Romney's lawyer said he does not have a position on whether it should be unsealed, but didn't anticipate objecting, according to the Globe. METRO/MN

Who cares about an old divorce case?

Because of a gag order, it is not clear what is in the testimony, celebrity gossip website TMZ reported yesterday, citing sources that Romney lied under oath about the financial value of Staples.

JOHNNY VY/KBAE VIA GETTY IMAGES

Staples got its start after an investment by Bain Capital, which Romney led.

Hostel-tality: Boston hostel raises the bar, unites visitors

Known for its history, museums, universities and hospitals, its not surprising that each year about 12 million tourists from around the nation and the globe hit up the Hub for a little sightseeing, and with 484 beds, one of Boston's biggest hostels has them covered.

In June, Hostelling International Boston opened its new facility on Stuart Street, often selling out to tourists eager for a cheap place to rest their head while in town.

But for those familiar with hostels around the world, checking into the clean, green, state-of-the-art building is a startling, albeit welcome, surprise.

"Most of the hostels in Europe are absolutely dingy," said 29-year-old Eyre Kurasawa, a London resident who stopped through Boston for five days on her way to Canada and Japan.

"This is amazing. I've only been here for two nights, but it's extremely clean ... and breakfast offers a lot of normal food — toast, bagels, cereals, porridge."

According to Deborah Ruhe, executive director of Hostelling International New England, the hostel is meant to cultivate a sense of community among Boston's international visitors.

"Our whole purpose is about trying to bring together people so they'll interact and break down cultural misunderstandings," she said.

Waiting in the community lobby, luggage in hand, Kurasawa said she enjoyed her Boston jaunt, but admitted the city's personality is reminiscent of its British heritage.

"London is very standoffish, and I'm used to that, but I got the impression that Bostonians are a little more standoffish. I don't know why. It's funny though because some people are very friendly, but especially when I was in Cambridge, people tended to be a little bit more reserved. Maybe because they're academics," she said.

Another shocker for Kurasawa was how multicultural the city is: "I'm hearing French and Spanish all over the place, and there are people of all races as well. I never realized it was such an international city."

MORGAN ROUSSEAU
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NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

▶ Visitors come and go at the new Hostelling International location on Stuart Street in Boston.

Mean streets

A 2011 report by the University of Michigan conducted a national survey that measured Boston as the meanest city in the nation. The survey asked Americans questions designed to measure certain "character strengths," like gratitude and valuing emotional connections. The Hub came in last place.

Bringing people together

"We're a non-profit organization with a mission to promote international understanding," Ruhe said. "We do things intentionally to bring people together. You go to a hotel, you might meet somebody at the bar, but you're not really there to meet other people."

Self-absorbed?

Kaiko Oizumi, 22, stayed in the hostel this week during her visit from Japan.

"It seems people here are walking very fast, and seem to concentrate more on business and themselves," she said, adding that she has spent time in San Diego, where she says people are "more friendly and personable."

Hostel environment

The hostel organizes activities for our foreign friends as well. The most popular include bowling night, beer tasting at Harpoon Brewery, trivia night and a pub crawl. Boston hostel guests most commonly hail from (in order):

1. England and Wales
2. Germany
3. Canada
4. France
5. Australia
6. China
7. Korea

In the news

3

According to Mayor Thomas Menino, that's how many hours haunted Boston residents will be able to trick-or-treat on Halloween.
The Boston Police Department announced yesterday that the city is encouraging "all wannabe ghosts, ghouls and goblins to concentrate and contain their candy-gathering efforts" between the hours of 5 p.m. and 8 p.m., a time period that has been officially declared "the designated time for trick-or-treating." METRO

Today's local tweet

"The #MBTA must already have #bindersfullof women because it can't bother to stop for this one. #57bus"

THINGS WE CAN ASSUME ABOUT @LZAICH: SHE WAS LATE, AND SHE WATCHED THE DEBATE

In the news

Warren leads Brown in new poll

MASSACHUSETTS. A new poll out yesterday from the MassINC Polling Group and WBUR showed Democrat Elizabeth Warren leading Sen. Scott Brown, 48 percent to 43 percent, outside the 4.4-percent margin of error.

The survey of 516 likely Massachusetts voters was conducted Oct. 21 to Oct. 22. Brown led by four points in the same WBUR-MassINC poll taken earlier this month.

New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie campaigned with Brown in Watertown and Framingham yesterday. SHNS

BPD head placed on paid leave

BOSTON. The head of investigative services for the Boston Police Department was placed on leave while allegations against him are investigated.

Bruce Holloway, who oversees the department's detectives, was placed on paid leave, a spokeswoman told the Herald yesterday.

Holloway's lawyer said the allegations are related to a relationship with a former girlfriend against whom Holloway filed a restraining order earlier this year, according to the Herald. METRO

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Hogwash! Pet owner seeks pet pig's release

A pig's plight was the subject a court hearing in Brockton yesterday as an owner tries to seek his pet's release from the custody of city officials.

Anthony Ruiz said his 3-year-old pot-bellied pig named "Porkchop" was taken by Brockton Animal Control officials Friday after many months of battling the city over keeping the pig at his home.

An animal control official confirmed yesterday that the pig was being held, but referred questions to the city's Health Department. Health Department officials did not return requests for comment.

At a court hearing yesterday, Ruiz argued that he was in the process of relocating "Porkchop" to a friend's Easton farm when animal control officials lured the pig away and took custody of him.

"I was never given an opportunity to remove the pig from Brockton because he was stolen," Ruiz told Metro yesterday. "Now they're holding my property and that's unlawful."

Ruiz said a judge gave him until next week to secure paperwork that documents "Porkchop" would be allowed in his new town and legal under regulations. Only then would the pig be released, Ruiz said.

Ruiz said he's paid many citations in the past as the city has attempted to keep his pig penned. Recently, the city told Ruiz "Porkchop" had to leave the city by Oct. 19. He said he was getting ready to relocate the pig that morning and left him at his brother's nearby yard to load up his car. That's when "Porkchop" disappeared.

Some neighbors have complained about the pig, but others have enjoyed having the swine around, Ruiz said.

COURTESY/ANTHONY RUIZ

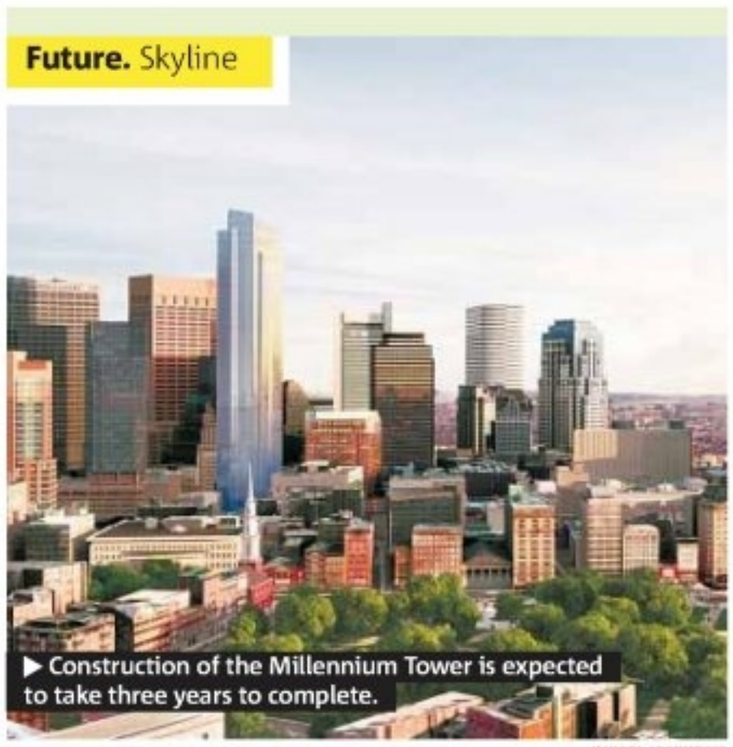
▶ "Porkchop" before he was taken into custody by city officials.

Quoted

"That pig brings a lot of joy to the city. I take that pig everywhere, car shows, I take him to work with me. ... I take him to the beach, people just enjoy him. They're wasting all this time and paperwork over nothing."
RUIZ

MICHAEL NAUGHTON
michael.naughton@metro.us

Future. Skyline



▶ Construction of the Millennium Tower is expected to take three years to complete.

HANDEL ARCHITECTS

Millennium to change skyline

Handel Architects recently released a rendering showing what the Millennium Tower will look against the Boston skyline. The 625-foot tower would be the city's third tallest building, behind the 790-foot Hancock Tower and the 750-foot Prudential Center. The $615 million building will include 600 residential units — rentals and condos — and up to 200,000 square feet of retail, 200,000 square feet of office space, restaurants, a health club and parking. The construction is set to begin in the middle of next year. METRO

In the news

Teen arrested when he comes to bail out friends

A Dorchester teen was arrested Tuesday night, accused of unarmed robbery and assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, after fleeing the scene of the alleged crime and heading to the police station to bail out his friends.

According to MBTA transit police, Eric Thompson, 18, of Dorchester was one of seven teens to physically assault and steal a cell phone from a woman at Tufts Medical Center station around 6:40 p.m.

While police caught his cohorts, Thompson was able to escape until he tried to bail them out and an officer recognized him. METRO/MR

7 There are seven suspects: Three are adults and four are juveniles.

News in brief

▶ Dress up those doggies

Pooch parade set for this Saturday

BOSTON. Dozens of Hub hounds strut their stuff this Saturday as their proud owners parade them around in Halloween costumes at the second annual Canine Promenade at the Charles River Esplanade.

The half-mile parade is meant to raise awareness about park improvement and offer a chance to fawn over cute canine costumes.

There will be prizes for the pets with the best costumes and treats provided by Pawsh Dog Boutique & Salon, which is sponsoring the event along with The Esplanade Association.

There is a cost of $10 per dog to participate; however, the money goes toward restoring the park. METRO

Harvard gets millions to improve housing

CAMBRIDGE. A foundation founded by a Harvard alumnus has given the university millions to help revitalize undergraduate housing.

The Hutchins Family Foundation, which was endowed by Glenn Hutchins, gave the university $30 million, Harvard announced yesterday.

Academic initiatives will be supported by the gift that will also be used to establish the Hutchins Family Challenge Fund for Housing Renewal. Matching gifts to alumni and friends that support the revitalization of Harvard's House system will be awarded. METRO

As clean as a Greanbean

Greenbean Recycle's paperless machines aim to motivate recyclers with competitions, stats and refunds

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

▶ Greenbean Recycle CEO Shanker Sahai shows how the machine works at Northeastern University yesterday.

Like many modern Americans, Shanker Sahai is on board with recycling — but in his opinion, there is a major hurdle when it comes to getting people to do it: lethargy.

"Humans are lazy, but they're curious and very social. I wanted to let people know that just one bottle can make a difference," said Sahai, founder and CEO of Greenbean Recycle in Somerville.

The company planted its first recycling machine at MIT in August 2011. Since then, Greenbean machines have popped up at Tufts, Brandeis, and as of last month, Harvard and Northeastern, revolutionizing recycling in a way that makes it more Millennial Generation-friendly, and offering what Sahai calls "instant data for instant gratification."

"The folks who use social media and smart phones — those are the people who will change the future. We wanted to use the same technology to motivate the next generation of recyclers," Sahai said.

The high-tech, paperless machines let students use a touch screen to enter their phone number when they're dropping off cans and bottles. A bar-code reader counts the number of containers and then uploads the data on the Greanbean website. Users can get instant, real time recycling statistics, prizes for frequent recycling and, of course, the 5 cent refund that's sent directly to a PayPal account, student ID card or charity.

And while Sahai said he feels that people in a young demographic seem interested in recycling, he also believes they may need a little more incentive than the simple thrill of doing a green good deed, so he added a competitive aspect - recyclers can track their progress online and engage in competitions with fellow students.

Sahai's hope is to reach more recyclers by expanding to airports, sporting arenas and the MBTA.

MORGAN ROUSSEAU
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By the numbers

- More than 2,500 total users
- Since its been around longer, Greenbean's MIT machine has done the most recycling to date: 75,000 bottles and cans
- A total of 99,324 containers collected throughout Boston and Cambridge
- 19,017.62 lbs. have been diverted from landfill
- 16,904.23 kilowatt hours of energy saved

Source: Greenbean Recycle/ CEO Shanker Sahai

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Metro photo challenge

▶ "Somewhere In Between" is by Bryan Trindade, New York.

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Mini iPad price will leave gap in market

Apple's "iPad mini" will attract new customers, but the higher-than-expected price will come as a relief to low-cost tablets such as Amazon.com Inc.'s Kindle, analysts said, in a muted reaction to the new tablet.

Few analysts revised their price targets for Apple in the wake of the announcement, with one raising their target and one cutting it.

"We believe the iPad mini, with its $329 starting price for the 16GB WiFi-only model, will help Apple reach a new customer base, particularly for holiday gifts to teenagers that may not have been able to afford the higher-end iPad," Canaccord Genuity analyst Michael Walkley wrote in a research note.

He raised his price target slightly on the stock to $800 from $797.

"We were hoping the price would be at least a little lower, given its competition is situated as low as $99, with many starting in the $199-to-$249 range," Barclays Capital analyst Ben Reitzes said. REUTERS

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Media examine the new tablet.

"We were hoping the price would be at least a little lower given its competition is situated as low as $99."

BARCLAYS CAPITAL ANALYST BEN REITZES

Price too high?

$329 starting price for a Wi-Fi-only "iPad mini" was higher than many expected, and some analysts said the gadget might lure buyers away from Apple's $499 flagship 10-inch iPad, yet struggle to compete with the cheaper Amazon Kindle Fire and Google Inc.'s Nexus 7.

In the news

New homes sales brighten housing picture

GETTY IMAGES

WASHINGTON. New single-family home sales surged in September to the highest level in 2½ years, evidence the housing market recovery is gaining steam.

The Commerce Department said that new home sales increased 5.7 percent to a seasonally adjusted 389,000-unit annual rate — the fastest pace since April 2010, when sales were boosted by a tax credit for first-time homebuyers. REUTERS

In the news

Millennium bomber sentence increased to 37 years

▶ Ressam

SEATTLE. "Millennium bomber" Ahmed Ressam, whose original 22-year prison term was deemed too lenient by an appeals court, was re-sentenced to 37 years behind bars yesterday for a foiled New Year's Eve 1999 plot to bomb Los Angeles International Airport.

Federal prosecutors who appealed the original punishment had asked the Seattle-based district judge presiding over the case to impose a new sentence that would require Ressam, an Algerian national, to spend the rest of his life in prison. REUTERS

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News in brief

GETTY IMAGES

Buffett: Clear sign global economy is slowing

NEW YORK. Warren Buffett sees clear signs that the global economy is slowing, although the U.S. economy is "inching ahead" as other regions decline, the Berkshire Hathaway chief executive officer said yesterday.

Yet despite the weakness, Buffett said he was "salivating" to make another major acquisition, adding that two deals of around $20 billion each had fallen through this year.

In an interview on CNBC, Buffett said the rate of decline was larger in Asia than in Europe, although the Asian economies are declining off a higher base. **REUTERS**

Women have just 20 percent of world's powerful positions — study

NEW YORK. Women have gained little ground in political leadership around the world, with men still in about 80 percent of key elected and appointed positions, according to the World Economic Forum's annual Global Gender Gap Report.

"Some countries are moving in the right direction, but very slowly," said Saadia Zahidi, head of the WEF's Women Leaders and Gender Parity program, in an interview before the release of the 2012 report. "We're talking about very small and slow changes." **BLOOMBERG**

Barnes & Noble stores get hit by PIN pad fraud

Barnes & Noble Inc., said yesterday that customers who shopped at 63 of its stores as recently as last month may have had their credit or debit card information stolen in what the U.S. bookstore chain called a "sophisticated criminal effort."

The retailer, which operates a total of almost 700 bookstores, said that federal law enforcement authorities have been informed of the breach and that it is supporting their investigation.

Barnes & Noble said it had detected tampering with one personal identification number (PIN) pad device at each of the 63 affected stores and by Sept. 14 had disconnected all the pads at every one of its stores. The tampering affected fewer than 1 percent of its PIN pads.

The company said it did not know how many customers were affected. The stores are in California, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Rhode Island, Barnes & Noble said.

Still, the company said its customer database was secure, and that purchases made on the Barnes & Noble website, Nook e-reader and Nook mobile apps were not affected. It also said none of the pads at its college campus stores were affected. **REUTERS**

63

Barnes & Noble said it had detected tampering with one personal identification number (PIN) pad device at each of the 63 affected stores.

How the scam works

Barnes & Noble advised customers who have swiped their cards at any of the affected stores to change their debit card PIN numbers as a precaution, and to check their statements for unauthorized transactions.

SOURCE: BARNES & NOBLE

METRO GRAPHIC BY BILLY BECERRA

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GOP candidate explains 'God's will' rape remark as a misunderstanding

Richard Mourdock, the Republican candidate in a tight race for a U.S. Senate seat in Indiana, said he was sorry if anyone misunderstood his comment that pregnancy resulting from rape can be "something that God intended to happen."

Mourdock said some people took his remarks at a debate on Tuesday night as condoning rape. He said he abhors rape and violence against women.

Mourdock made the controversial comments during a campaign debate with Democratic Representative Joe Donnelly and Libertarian Andrew Horning.

While explaining his position that the only exception to a ban on abortion should be for the life of a mother, Mourdock said: "I struggled with it myself for a long time, but I came to realize that life is that gift from God, and I think even when life begins in that horrible situation of rape, that it is something God intended to happen."

Earlier in the week, the Mourdock campaign issued an ad featuring Romney's endorsement of the Indiana Republican, saying Mourdock's vote in the Senate could be crucial to repealing Obama's health reform law. **REUTERS**

GETTY IMAGES

"I apologize that they came away, and I have certainly been humbled by the fact that so many people think that somehow was an interpretation"
RICHARD MOURDOCK

Another GOP rape comment

The Mourdock incident was the second time during the 2012 election campaign that a conservative Republican candidate for the U.S. Senate made controversial remarks about rape.

Missouri candidate Todd Akin said in August that women have natural defenses against pregnancy from "legitimate rape." Republicans disavowed Akin's comment and he has trailed Democratic Senator Claire McCaskill in most polls since then.

Some Republicans distanced themselves from Mourdock's comments on Wednesday and Democrats pounced on the remarks, which threatened to put at risk in November a U.S. Senate seat held by Republicans. **REUTERS**

In the news

Man killed at Atlanta church

ATLANTA. A gunman opened fire in a suburban Atlanta megachurch killing a man who was leading a morning prayer service and then fleeing in a car, police said.

The suspect, identified as Floyd Palmer, a 52-year-old former church maintenance worker who resigned in August, walked calmly into the service at the World Changers Church International in College Park, Ga., and fired multiple shots, Fulton County Police Corporal Kay Lester said.

The victim, described only as a 39-year-old church volunteer, was taken to a local hospital where he died. **REUTERS**

25
As many as 25 people were inside the church at the time of the shooting.

West Nile virus death toll hits 200

GETTY IMAGES

▶ A truck fogs a neighborhood with insecticide.

The U.S. outbreak of West Nile virus has killed 219 people this year, after another 36 deaths from the mosquito-borne disease were reported last week.

In what is the second-worst year on record for the disease, the total number of cases of West Nile virus across the United States grew to 4,725, with 194 new cases reported, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Although the pace of new cases has slowed since the outbreak's peak in the late summer, new cases continue to be reported, particularly in states where warm temperatures persist. This year's outbreak has trailed only 2003 in total cases.

Just over half of the cases reported to the CDC this year have been of the severe neuroinvasive form of the disease, which can cause meningitis and encephalitis. **REUTERS**

Rock, paper, scissors time?

47%
[WHOSE TURN TODAY?]

Romney inches ahead in polls

Republican candidate Mitt Romney was one percentage point ahead of President Barack Obama in yesterday's Reuters/Ipsos daily tracking poll in a presidential race that is effectively a dead heat less than two weeks before the Nov. 6 election.

In a reversal of Tuesday's results, Romney led Obama among likely voters by 47 percent to 46 percent, a statistically insignificant margin, in the four-day online tracking poll.

Obama had a lead of 53-42 percent among the 17 percent of the surveyed registered voters who said they had already cast their vote. Like many other polls, the rolling Reuters/Ipsos poll has shown a tight race since shortly after the two candidates met for their first debate on Oct. 3. **REUTERS**

46%
[SOMEONE HAS TO BE NO. 2]

Costly truth: Trump to give $5M to charity if Obama shows records

Donald Trump offered to pay $5 million to the charity of President Barack Obama's choice if Obama releases his college and passport records, the real estate mogul and television personality said on Wednesday.

"Frankly, it's a check that I very much want to write," Trump said in a YouTube video released via his Twitter and Facebook pages.

Trump has questioned whether Obama's birth certificate issued by the state of Hawaii is legitimate, suggesting Obama was not born in the United States, which could have made him ineligible for the White House. The White House released the long-form copy of Obama's birth certificate in 2011.

Trump did not say what he expected the college and passports records to reveal but was specific in saying he wanted to see all of Obama's college applications and records and his passport applications and records.

Trump said the deadline is 5 p.m. on Oct. 31. **REUTERS**

YOUTUBE

▶ The face of a man who takes his paperwork very seriously

Americans easily angered by lack of records?

"President Obama is the least transparent president in the history of this country. If he releases these records, it will end the question and indeed the anger of many Americans." TRUMP

White whale of a deal

Obama predicts deficit deal with Republicans

President Barack Obama voiced confidence that if re-elected he would secure within six months a deficit-reduction deal with Republicans equivalent to the "grand bargain" he failed to achieve last year.

Win or lose, Obama faces a so-called "fiscal cliff" of automatic across-the-board spending cuts and tax increases set for the end of the year. **REUTERS**

"It will probably be messy. It won't be pleasant. But I am absolutely confident that we can get ... the grand bargain."
OBAMA

Promises, promises

Obama's hope: Where did it go?

Dan Palmer, 22, spends his days manning phone banks and making sure his fellow students are registered to vote. Oh, and he studies for a political science degree. "People talk about an enthusiasm gap, but people my age are just as enthusiastic about Obama as we were four years ago", Palmer says. "It's just that many of the 2008 volunteers have jobs now and can't volunteer."

In 2008, Barack Obama's campaign attracted a vast army of enthusiastic volunteers.

"This year I made a one-time donation, but I'm not working on the campaign. I'll be voting for Obama in 2012, but it's due more to my belief that Romney would be a worse president," says Brian Massie, a 2008 volunteer.

ELIZABETH BRAW
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LONDON

Metropolitik

MICHAEL J. FROSCH
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT FOR METRO

THE GREAT GEOGRAPHIC UNKNOWN

President Barack Obama clearly dominated Mitt Romney on style and substance in Monday's final debate on foreign policy. But beyond the gamesmanship of who won or lost, Mitt Romney betrayed a level of ignorance so profound that it should disqualify him from being president.

On Monday night, Romney tried to explain that Syria is strategically important to Iran because Syria is Iran's "route to the sea." First of all, simply looking at a map reveals how idiotic this is.

Syria doesn't even share a border with Iran — you would have to go through Turkey or Iraq. Even worse, Iran has 2,000 miles of its very own coastline along the Caspian Sea and the Persian Gulf. Iran's "route to the sea" is nothing more than "any road heading north-south."

This is the seventh time Romney's has made this ridiculous argument this year, without once correcting it. Even after Monday's debate, Romney's campaign insisted that Romney merely meant to say that Syria is Iran's route to the "Mediterranean Sea."

But this is just as ignorant — Iran has ample access to the Mediterranean through its neighbor and trading partner Turkey.

Imagine if it had been President Obama who had shown this level of ignorance on such a vital issue. Republicans would talk of nothing else. Yet, what should be the biggest headline from Monday's debate has mostly been ignored (it wasn't even mentioned in yesterday's Metropolitik).

This isn't just a bit of trivia. The use of economic sanctions to deter Iran from any potential nuclear ambitions has been the central national security issue in this election.

Quoted

Syria doesn't share a border with Iran — you would have to go through Turkey or Iraq. Even worse, Iran has 2,000 miles of its very own coastline along the Caspian Sea and the Persian Gulf. Iran's "route to the sea" is nothing more than "any road heading north-south."

How can Mitt Romney even comprehend those sanctions, let alone criticize how the President has been using them, when he doesn't even understand the basic geography of Iran, or how and with whom it trades?

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages. Opposing viewpoints are welcome. Send 100-word submissions to letters@metro.us.

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181 FAUNCE CORNER ROAD

myentertainment

2

The feed ...

▶ Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Today, Russell Brand prefers the monarchy, Carrie Fisher is opening up, Garry Shandling has some ideas to improve "American Idol" and Sarah Silverman is getting savvy about religion.

@rustyrockets
Mitt and Barack are not proper names. I'd like an elderly female candidate in a crown.

@CarrieFFisher
I'm a failed anorexic.

@GarryShandling
Like to see a REAL reality talent show: the contestant goes backstage with a Hollywood producer and we never find out how they got the job.

@SarahKSilverman
People in cults don't call their cults cults

Sarah Silverman

THE WORD

Metro's **Dorothy Robinson** shares her take on the world of gossip @dorothyatmetro dorothy.robinson@metro.us

Could Simpson's clothing line have company in the closet?

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

▶ Jessica and Joe Simpson.

Looks like **Ashlee** and **Jessica Simpson** are going to have a lot to talk about around the Thanksgiving dinner table.

First up? Their mother, **Tina Simpson**, filed for divorce from their father, **Joe Simpson**, after 34 years of marriage last month. "It is an amicable split and there is no third party involved," a rep for the family says. "Any other related allegations are completely false. The family appreciates your respect for their privacy at this time."

The "allegations" they refer to? Well, the National Enquirer is reporting that their father, Joe Simpson, is gay. According to the tabloid, Simpson has a 20-year-old boyfriend, who was reportedly in the car with the former youth pastor and Baptist minister when he was busted for a DUI on Aug. 4.

I'll give you a second to let that sink in.

Got it together? Good. The National Enquirer even has a source from the family: "The police report stated that there was someone else in the car with Joe. Some reports have stated it was Tina, but now the belief is that it may well have been a boyfriend."

Of course, there is a good chance this is just a big, fat and very juicy rumor. After all, if Jessica Simpson's father were gay, don't you think her shoe line would be a little more fierce?

Houston family makes reality TV show

Whitney Houston's family is making a reality TV show, supposedly about how they are "coping" with the loss of the pop star. "The Houstons: On Our Own" premiered last night on Lifetime.

"The show has kept the family close together, [instead of] isolated from one another. We talk about things, we are very open, and we pay attention to the ones who need consoling the most," **Pat Houston**, Whitney's manager and sister-in-law, told Reuters.

The show opens with Houston's 19-year-old daughter, **Bobbi Kristina**, drinking an alcoholic beverage and announcing her engagement to **Nick Gordon**, 23, the boy Whitney Houston "adopted."

Didn't anyone in that family learn anything about shoving a young girl into the spotlight when maybe she wasn't mature enough to handle it?

Talking points

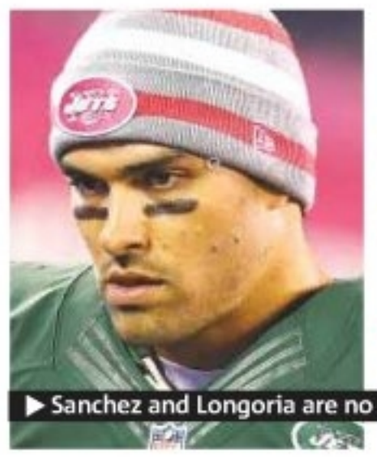
No *NSYNC reunion at Timberlake's wedding

Justin Timberlake only had room for two of his former *NSYNC band mates on the guest list for his wedding to **Jessica Biel** last week, according to Us Weekly. While **JC Chasez** and **Chris Kirkpatrick** got to enjoy the lavish event in southern Italy, **Lance Bass** and **Joey Fatone** had to stay home. "Justin thought a reunion would overshadow the wedding," a source says. "And Justin hates Lance now."

Ah, *NSYNC memories!

Watson heads back to school

Emma Watson is going back to school. After enrolling in Brown University in the fall of 2009, the British actress took a leave of absence from the Ivy League school in March 2011. "I love Brown and I love studying pretty much more than anything, but recently I've had so much to juggle that being a student and fulfilling my other commitments has become a little impossible," Watson wrote on her blog at the time. She then spent her junior year abroad, studying at Oxford University before delaying her return to Brown once again to film a number of projects this summer and fall. But her rep assures Gossip Cop that the "Harry Potter" star will be back on campus for the 2013 winter semester.



▶ Sanchez and Longoria are no more.

Longoria and Sanchez break up

Eva Longoria and NFL star **Mark Sanchez** have split up after a couple of months of dating, a rep for Sanchez confirms to Us Weekly. "Mark adores and respects Eva," the rep says. "It was really about scheduling more than anything else. They will remain close friends." And an anonymous source for the magazine confirms the cause: "There was no drama," the source says. "They just have completely different schedules and lifestyles." Longoria confirmed she was dating Sanchez in early September.

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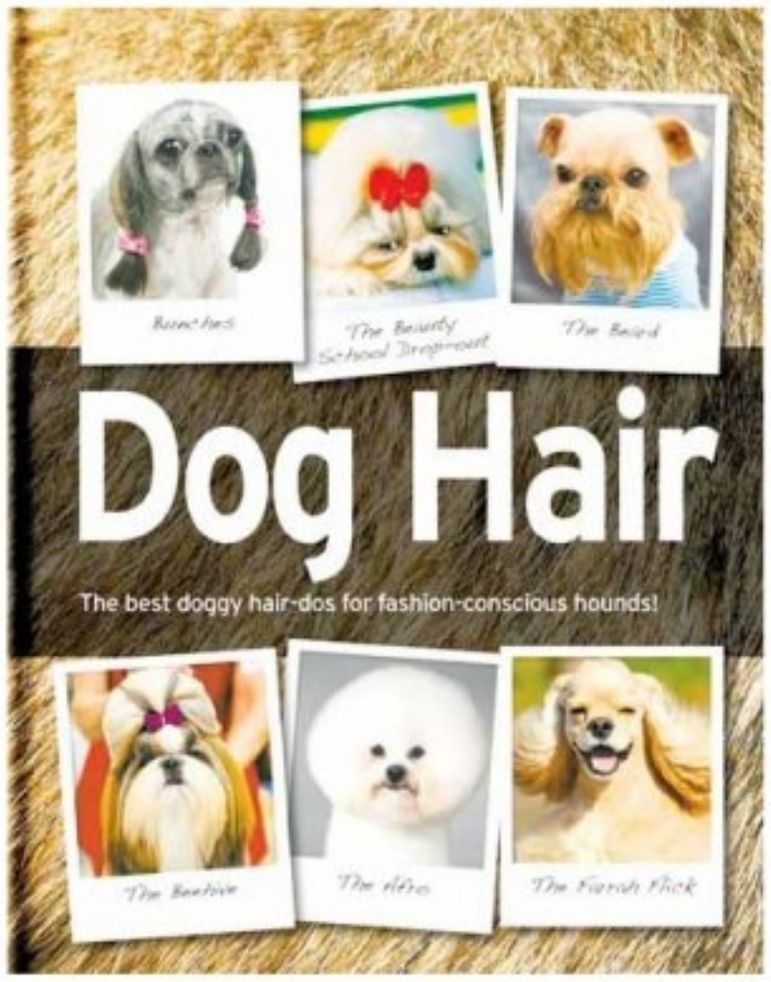

SHALL WE SHAG?

When we got in the new book "Dog Hair: The Best Doggy Hair-Dos for Fashion-Conscious Hounds," The Word couldn't resist sharing the book's best celebrity doggie dos (or are they doggie don'ts?) with our readers. You'll have to get the book for more inspiration — it's out now for $9.99. METRO

Metro's vote

What celebs do you think have a canine cut?
write to us at letters@metro.us

Style news

StyleFixx returns tonight!

DIANA TUTKO/METRO

▶ Shoppers get their style fix at StyleFixx.

After a successful installation last May, StyleFixx is back, showing off the best fashions that autumn offers. Join Boston's most fashion-forward for an exciting night of fashion fun, including more than 55 designers and brands. Activities include product sampling, along with spa, hair and beauty treatments. Guests are encouraged to take advantage of provided cocktails and appetizers and are given swag bags filled with samples and goodies. In the interest of full disclosure, Metro is one of the event's sponsors, and we will be running the Metro VIP Press/Blogger Lounge for all the big names in Boston Fashion blogging. Other Lounge guests can view and buy furniture from Aaron's Furniture, sip complimentary drinks from Cody Brewing and Cape Ann Beer, and get a manicure touch up from Minilux. The event takes place at the Boston Center for the Arts (539 Tremont St., Boston) today from 5 to 10 p.m. For more visit **www.stylefixx.com.**

DIANA TUTKO/METRO

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Top 5 films

WARNER BROS. PICTURES

▶ Meet the ladies of the future in "Cloud Atlas," which hits theaters this weekend.

1 'Cloud Atlas' We're ready to be as confused by this film as we were when dino-saurs showed up in "The Tree of Life." But no matter. If Tom Hanks, Halle Berry and the Wa- chowski siblings (who gave us "The Matrix") are in, this time warp may be worth a ticket.

2 'Chasing Mavericks' Gerard Butler is the Bodhi to Jonny Weston's Johnny Utah in this story about a teen who aspires to ride "maverick" waves and the cranky veteran surfer who tutors him.

3 'Fun Size' Halloween. High school kids. Raging party. A lost little brother. You imagine the rest.

4 'Silent Hill: Revelation 3D' The first "Silent Hill" film that came out in 2006 didn't exactly win the favor of critics. But perhaps this se-quel, which like its predeces- sor is based on a video game, will fare better in 3-D.

5 'Alex Cross' While Madea endures a period of forced retirement, her creator Tyler Perry plays against type in this adaptation of the best-selling James Patterson crime thrillers based on the title character.

A bare naked lady

Actress Helen Hunt appears in 'The Sessions' as you've never seen her before ◐ Why nude, why now? ◐ 'It made for a vulnerable workday'

FOX SEARCHLIGHT PICTURES

▶ Helen Hunt's character shares a moment with her patient, played by John Hawkes in "The Sessions," which is in theaters now.

There's not much that Helen Hunt hasn't done in Hollywood. An actress since age 9, she has appeared in dozens of movies and TV shows, had a hit sitcom and has written, directed and produced plenty more. But Hunt heads into the great unknown with "The Sessions." She portrays real-life sexual surrogate Cheryl Cohen Greene, who works with Mark O'Brien, a man whose childhood struggle with polio left him paralyzed from the neck down. While the full-frontal nudity required of the role left Hunt craving "sweatpants and a hamburger" at the end of the day, the beautiful story was well worth the sacrifice, she tells us.

One of the most fascinating things about this movie is your character's job as a sexual surrogate for those who have physical handicaps. What was the most interesting aspect of what she does?

To me the most interesting part was just her spirit, her vibe, her unabashed, slightly loud, no-bulls— Boston accent, her excited way of talking about sex. That was a cocktail I had never seen before.

Did you come to understand why she went into that profession?

Basically she was born a very sexual person, which I hadn't heard anybody say in a movie. … She found out that there was such a thing as surrogacy and there was an entire association devoted to training people and making sure they watch out for their own weirdness affecting the other people, which is like any therapist. … I think it seemed to be that over time it grew into a real vocation.

At different points in a person's career, there are things you're willing to do and there are things you're not willing to do. What made you feel ready to do the nudity now?

The first thing is reading a good story. It's so rare that you read a story you haven't heard a hundred times and a character that I [haven't] seen in life or in a movie — just an utterly new person to create. And then [it's] a feeling of like, it's getting late, what am I gonna wait for or worry about? Just jump in.

It's been said that you and John Hawkes not knowing each other before filming enhanced this awkward encounter …

We weren't playing people who'd been married for 20 years — that would have been harder. It wasn't until we started doing press for the movie that I was like, "I don't know this person at all, really and we went through this incredible experience." … We saw each other and went, "What did we just do? What happened in there? Holy s—." I saw him at the wrap party looking all handsome with that product in his hair and his boots and I went, "Whoa, whoa, whoa, this is not what I was playing at all!"

HEIDI PATALANO
heidi.patalano@metro.us

Thrill of the Hunt

It's not easy for any actress to do full-frontal nudity, but when people interview them about it, the first thing they often say is that wasn't even the hardest part of the job. Would you agree with that?

▶ This was different, but I would say the vulnerability, mine as an actress but also his as a character, the combination of the real vulnerability in the room and the vulnerability you're trying to bring to life made for a very vulnerable workday. By the end of the day, I wanted my sweatpants on and a hamburger and to be in bed. It was a lot of naked all day. But I guess in a way that I would agree with what you're saying is, it wasn't just about naked with no clothes on. It was also just about being so open and being with someone who is playing someone who actually had the courage to do this on their own behalf. It's pretty incredible.

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The MFA looks back on 'The Postcard Age' Curator says these relics reflect their era so well because they were such a medium of the people

Imagine in a hundred years if someone were to create an art exhibit about the heyday of the Internet. With literally millions of links to choose from, how could we narrow it down to the most historical, insightful and beautiful websites of this age?

The curators of "The Postcard Age," a new MFA exhibit of postcards, faced a similar challenge. And the resultant effort exemplifies the cliche "something for everybody." That's because between the years 1890 and 1910, postcards became such a craze in Europe and America that they did affect everybody. In 1903, one billion passed through Germany alone.

One billion is a number we don't normally associate with the early 1900s, but billions of postcards were printed during the peak of the phenomenon; a fact which, according to exhibit curator Benjamin Weiss, was instrumental in the postcard's ability to capture all of the most crucial artistic, political and trivial concerns and trends of the time.

"Postcards tell a story," says Weiss. "They were the perfect mirror of all the cares and concerns across the world."

From the collection

To present the story that postcards tell, the MFA started with 100,000 postcards from the collection of Leonard A. Lauder (a promised gift to the museum) and worked its way down to approximately 700 of the very best.

"It's not the biggest, by any stretch," says Weiss of Lauder's treasure trove, "but it's probably the most important and comprehensive postcard collection in the world."

Postcards are grouped into relevant sections and mounted in frameless Plexiglas displays that keep the essentially commercial pieces of design from appearing too precious.

Lauder's collection contains not only postcards created by the medium's noted commercial artists, such as Raphael Kirchner, but also fine artists who couldn't resist the medium's disposable beauty, such as Kandinsky and Toulouse-Lautrec.

On that note, whether you visit for the history or the designs, "The Postcard Age" will make your visit to the gift shop as affordable as ever!

JONATHAN DONALDSON
letters@metro.us

"The Postcard Age: Selections from the Leonard A. Lauder Collection," is at the Museum of Fine Arts (465 Huntington Ave., Boston, 617-267-9300, www.mfa.org) through April 14, 2013.

Halloween comedy

So funny it's scary

Gorefest X: 28 Days Latte
Through Wednesday
ImprovBoston
40 Prospect St., Cambridge
$18-$20, 617-576-1253
www.improvboston.com

As you might guess from the cheeky title, ImprovBoston's 10th Halloween musical is a delightful zombies-attacking-a-coffee-shop romp — but regardless of the changing content from year to year, the truly operative words for any Gorefest production are always "fake blood, gore and other bodily fluids," and don't think they won't be operative all over you — bring a raincoat!

IMPROVBOSTON

▶ Gorefest X

'The Stephen Kings of Comedy'
Through Wednesday
Improv Asylum
216 Hanover St., Boston
$20-$25, 617-263-6887
www.improvaslylum.com

Improv Asylum doesn't write ahead like their Cambridge contemporaries. They simply promise that this show will cover "all the best and worst parts of everyone's favorite spooky holiday." In other words, it'll be just as improvised as the costume you haven't come up with yet. This means it'll be awesome *and* we trust your costume creativity!

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Casual sex isn't all it's cracked up to be

While some consider it the height of adventure, a one night stand with a stranger has little to offer

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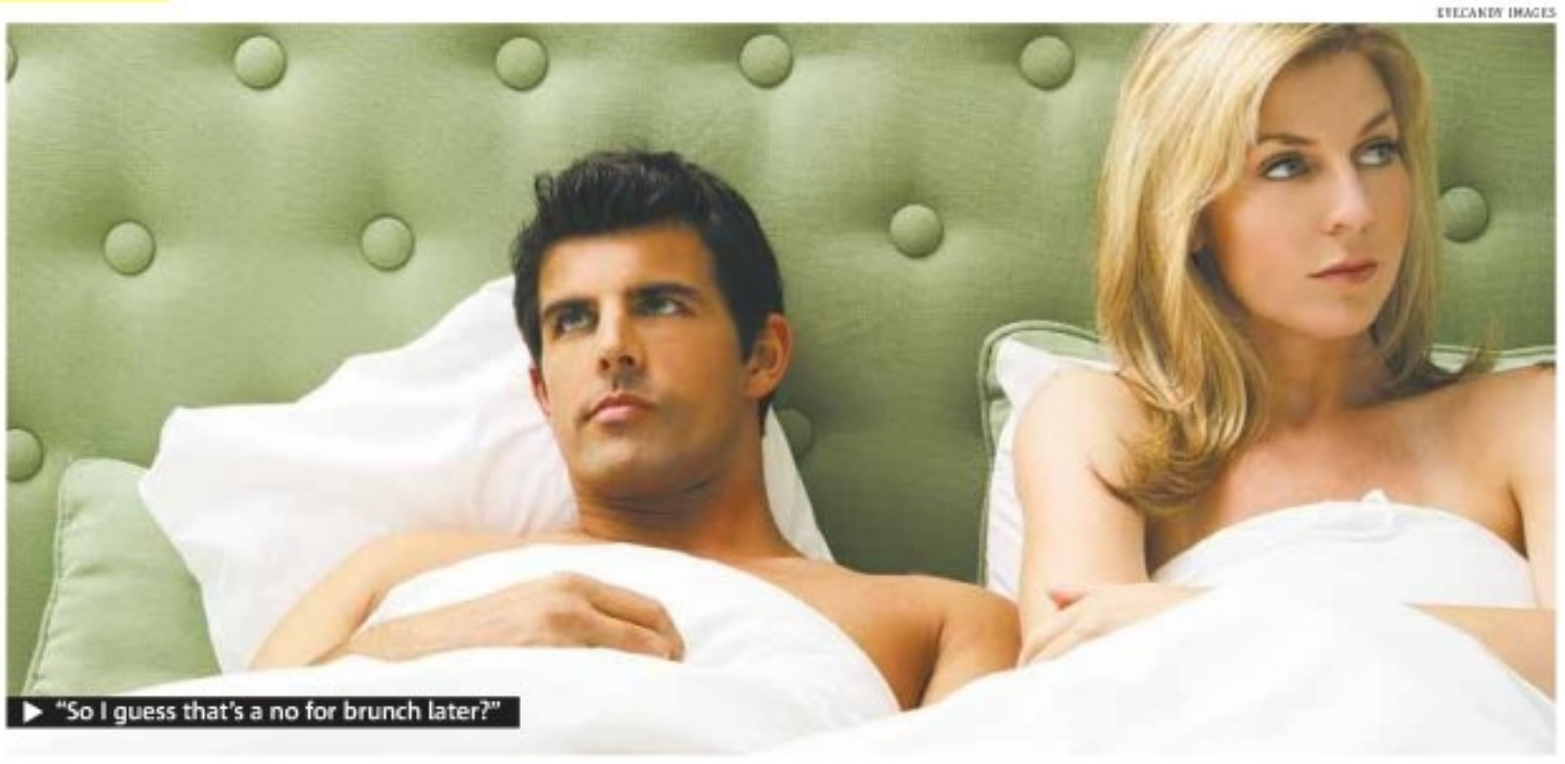

"So I guess that's a no for brunch later?"

The Hookup

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As babies, when we see strangers we get scared and cling to our mommies. As toddlers, we're told not to talk to strangers or (God forbid) take their candy. And now, as adults, we think we should be able to sleep with one we meet at a bar and feel OK about it the next day. But if we're honest with ourselves, having sex with someone you barely know is just kinda gross.

For my latest book — "Are All Guys Assholes?" — I traveled around the country talking to guys about (among other things) casual sex. Overwhelmingly, they described it as unsatisfying, disappointing and something that left them feeling empty. The men and women I coach now echo the same feelings. And yet, in moments of weakness while longing for human connection, many continue to do it.

The truth is, the physical act of sex is pretty unappealing. At the time, sex feels sexy because it's more than the physical act; you're mixing in romantic feelings and arousal. The romantic feelings are important here — they're the things that cloud your judgment in the most wonderful way so that you think that when the object of your affection burps, farts or snots all over themselves it's "cute." Take out the romantic feelings (because you can't have them for someone you barely know) and take out the arousal (which ends after an orgasm) and you're left with simply the act of sex and a strange sweaty body — not the human connection that probably motivated you in the first place.

Quoted

"Take out the romantic feelings ... and you're left with simply the act of sex and a strange sweaty body — not the human connection that probably motivated you in the first place." MADISON

The point of this article isn't to be judgmental, make you feel guilty or ruin your plans for tonight. It's to encourage you to pursue the types of relationships — sexual or otherwise — that make you feel good. When you're young, single and living in a city there is so much pressure to be living your "glory days" to the fullest. But sometimes our idea of "fun" doesn't translate to actually being fun, and we owe it to ourselves to recognize the difference.

*— **Amber Madison** is a Manhattan-based relationship expert and dating coach. She is the author of "Are All Guys Assholes?" for which she traveled the country, spoke to over 1,000 men and discovered that the answer to this question is no. You can follow her on Twitter @ambermadi or online at www.ambermadisononline.com*

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theater & arts guide

THEATER

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mykids

Carry your baby, help a mother

Ergobaby launches a guest designer series to benefit Christy Turlington Burns' charity, Every Mother Counts The aim is to 'bring women together in support of one another'

Carrying your baby is always in fashion. But now Christy Turlington Burns is aiming to make it more fashionable.

Her charity, Every Mother Counts, which helps raise awareness about maternal mortality, has teamed up with Ergo baby carriers to create a line of products that benefit EMC.

"We wanted to bring in a [unique] design aspect to this collaboration so we chose fabric from a local designer in West Africa," says Turlington Burns about the collection, which features two different carriers, a diaper bag and a waist-pack. The designer, Chantal, is from Togo in West Africa; she uses textile design to support her children. "This print and the story of Chantal add to the ultimate goal of this partnership, which is to bring women together in support of one another."

"There are no better advocates for the world's moms than moms."
CHRISTY TURLINGTON BURNS

290K Girls and women die from pregnancy- and childbirth-related causes each year.

90 Ninety percent of these deaths are preventable.

Maternal mortality

Ergobaby's Guest Designer Series facilitates awareness and support of Every Mother Counts:

"People are unaware of the statistics about maternal and child health, or they assume that these problems are only in other countries and cannot affect them," says Turlington Burns. "Many reduce the issues to political discourse and use it to divide people when this is one thing that should really unite us all. If we want our children to thrive, we must address the health of our mothers — preferably before they become moms."

Turlington Burns' series is available exclusively at www.ergobaby.com

DOROTHY ROBINSON
dorothy.robinson@metro.us

New release

'Go! Go! Go!' by Fiona Land

Little babies and toddlers will love this exclamation point-worthy book. Adorable round-faced babies pilot various things that move, like cars, boats, planes and tractors.

The design of "Go! Go! Go!" is bright, shiny and bold. The colorful design will catch their eyes, and the touch-and-feel elements like mirrors, cloth and plush textures will keep your little one occupied. It's a welcome addition to your bookshelf for when your baby's attention span is about a second long.

News in brief

BRAND X PICTURES

▶ Fruit is high in water and fiber and can help to reduce kids' hunger for unhealthy snacks.

Free fruit at school tied to fewer junk snacks

Norwegian children attending schools where free fruit was on offer ate less junk food and drank less soda than before the fruit was available, according to a new study that also found kids from disadvantaged households seemed to benefit the most.

"Previous work has shown fruit consumption goes up when they offer the program, but this study adds that consumption of junk food goes down," says Punam Ohri-Vachaspati, a professor at Arizona State University School of Nutrition and Health Promotion, who was not involved in the study.

The study did not show whether kids at schools with a fruit program ate fewer calories overall or if the reduction in junk food made any difference to their health.

The team that worked on the study is conducting more research into whether these changes have any impact on children's risk for obesity.

Helping kids learn to make healthy diet choices at an early age is likely to have lasting impacts on their decisions into adulthood.

REUTERS

mykids

Keeping your little ghosts and goblins safe this Halloween

Your children can enjoy holiday traditions safely Experts weigh in on how to make sure you and your family don't experience any Halloween horrors Tips on dressing appropriately

ISTOCKPHOTO

Keep your child safe while trick-or-treating.

You'd never let your child go to a stranger's house unattended any other time of year, so why should Halloween be any different?

Nancy A. McBride, the National Safety Director for the Center for Missing & Exploited Children says children should be accompanied by a parent or trusted adult and walked to the door by the parent to receive treats.

"Know the neighborhood in which you plan to trick-or-treat. Pick houses that you feel comfortable letting your child visit. Do not visit homes that are isolated or poorly lit," she says. Make sure your child is able to see and move easily in his or her costume. "Consider having your child carry a flashlight so that they can see more easily and are easily seen," she notes. And even if your child is old enough to out without your supervision, always make sure he or she is in a group.

If you're still nervous, there are several tracking apps that can provide an extra layer of security to keep track of your children via cell phone without being intrusive. The Snap Secure Geo-fence for Android sets a virtual boundary. "If they stray from that perimeter, or don't return to a specified location within a certain period of time, it automatically sends you an e-mail alert," says Jiren Parikh, CEO of Snap MyLife, Inc. the developer of the app. Their other app, the Snap Secure Family Locator, "lets you check in on their exact location at any time, in real-time, by using your own mobile device or Web dashboard," he notes.

Finally, keep in mind there are different ways to celebrate the holiday that don't involve going to strangers' houses.

"I'm a big fan of organizing a home or community party as an alternative to trick-or-treating," claims McBride.

DOROTHY ROBINSON
dorothy.robinson@metro.us

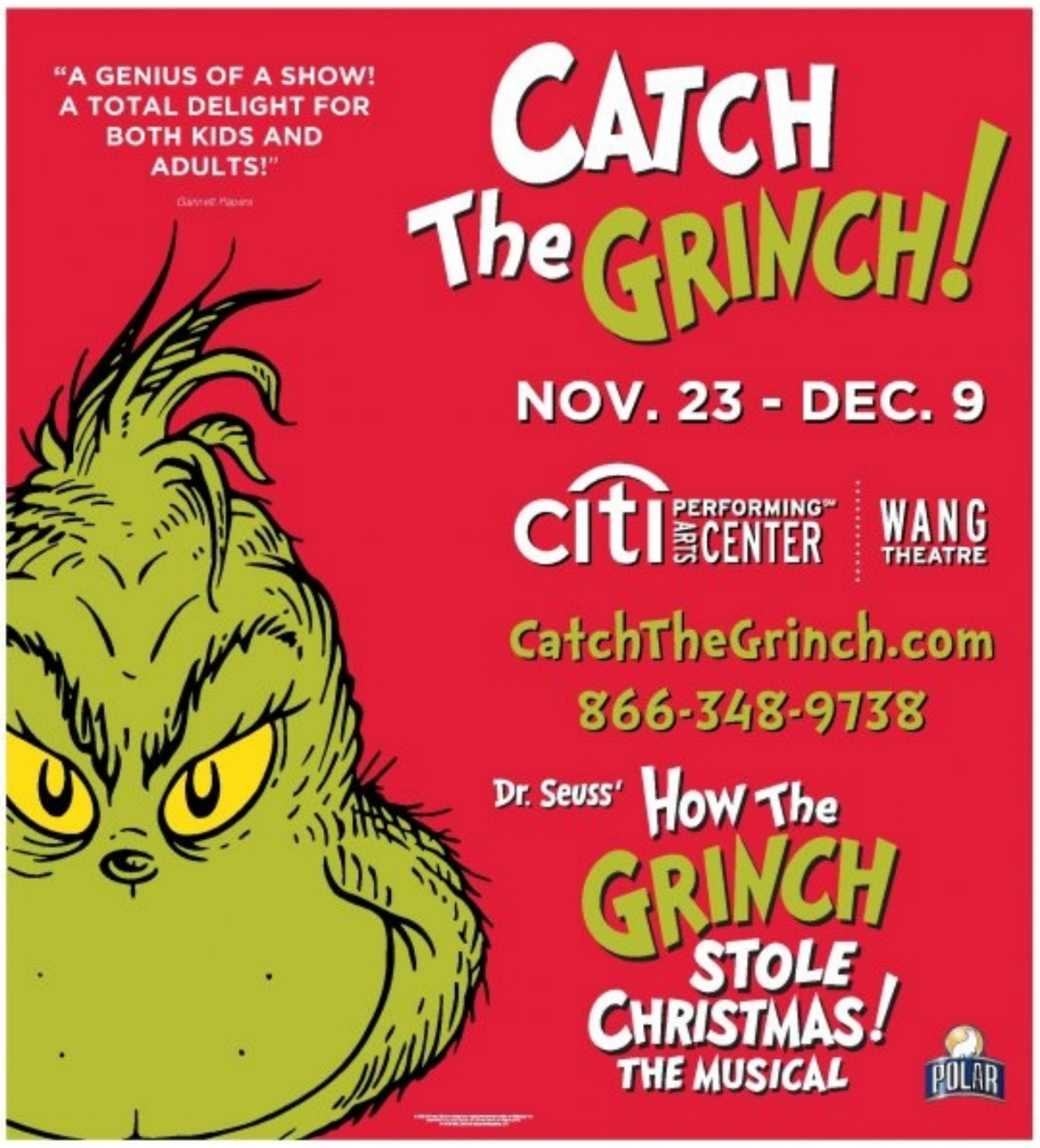
Safe and secure costumes

Not only do you have to get your kid a costume, but you also have to make sure it won't hurt them. Here is some advice from the ACEP, a national medical specialty society representing emergency medicine, which wants to make sure your kid stays out of the emergency room this Halloween:

- Avoid costumes that could cause children to trip, such as baggy pants, long hems, high heels and oversized shoes. Also, make sure they don't obstruct the child's sight or vision and they are made out of flame-resistant materials, such as nylon or polyester.
- Add reflective tape to costumes so your child is more visible to motor vehicles and avoid dark colors.
- Check accessories such as swords, knives, wands and other pointed objects. Make sure they are made from flexible materials and have dulled edges.

Additional safety tips from NCMEC

- Be sure children do not approach any vehicle, occupied or not, and make sure they get away quickly if someone gets out of a vehicle and starts to approach them.
- Children should never enter a home without his or her parent's permission.
- Teach your child to say "No!" or "This is not my mother/father!" in a very loud voice if someone tries to get him or her to go somewhere.



Letters

letters@metro.us

No country for old flip-floppers

Reading the letters Tuesday after the last presidential debate, during which Romney totally reversed himself on a number of issues, I was amazed to see how many finally get it.

For example, not long ago, one of the Republican talking points was "Don't set a date for leaving Afghanistan!" In the last debated, he said, "I agree with the president, we should get out by the end of 2014."

Another example: In the previous debate, he noted some parts of Obamacare he liked and would keep. The other night, he was back to overturning it totally, again. The media has been calling him out on these reversals all day today.

It looks like it doesn't matter to some what Romney says because his voters' main issue is not defense or tax reform or energy policy. It is just defeating Obama.

And it appears to be based more on personal enmity than on anything else. I for one hope this country, finally, will move past this stuff — toward a future based on understanding what the right thing is and doing it.

PAUL SIMONS, VIA E-MAIL

If you're going to build a road, at least build it here

RE: "NO WINNER IN SUBDUED FINAL DEBATE" (METRO, OCT. 24)

News columnist Susan Ferrechio states, "The debate generated less interest because it was about foreign policy, not pocketbook issues." If only she or anyone in the news would finally do their job and inform people by reporting the truth: that the two ARE directly connected. Our defense and foreign policy spending is where the largest amount of our borrowing and tax dollars go. Reducing it would be the single greatest way to fix our economy and pocketbooks. Want to build a road in the U.S.? Pay for it with the money used to build one in Afghanistan.

JASON FARBER, VIA E-MAIL

News columnist Susan Ferrechio's claim that there was no clear winner in the final debate is completely laughable. President Obama wiped the floor with Romney and his silk suit. However, Obama did fail at one aspect of the debate: the economy. He failed to repeatedly state that our sluggish economy is the direct result of the policies of the Bush administration and that Romney's economic plan is a return to those exact failed policies!

ROBERT LA ROSA, VIA E-MAIL

Independence doesn't come with a nanny attached

We are two weeks away from the election. Gov. Romney survived three debates and all the liberal media bias. Romney is qualified and will be elected the next president of the United States.

President Obama tried the last four years. His ideas and policies did not work. We do not need Obamacare; more government programs are not the solution for the future. Romney has fresh ideas and a plan for the future that will make this country great again.

JOHN MCLAUGHLIN, VIA E-MAIL

E-mail your letters: **letters@metro.us**

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words.
Metro reserves the right to edit all letters.
Please include your name and contact information.

Horoscope

♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** Don't feel obligated to attend a social function just to keep up appearances. If you don't like the event and/or some of the people who'll be there, give your regrets.

♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** Time is too precious to squander on just anything or anybody. Share it with those you truly like and enjoy doing things with.

♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** It could turn out to be a huge learning experience when you get involved in a stimulating discussion with someone whose views diametrically oppose yours.

♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** This can be an extremely favorable day in terms of financial gain, but not necessarily from investments or joint ventures. You'll play your own game for a big payoff.

♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** Friends will have little doubt as to where you stand, and you'll be respected for your candor, even when your position opposes that of the majority.

♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** An old obligation that has been owed you for quite a while is collectable at this point in time. Approach the debtor in such a way that he or she will get the message without resenting it.

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** You're likely to be approached to chair a committee within a certain group or club in which you're involved. It may be a tough job, but it will have interesting side benefits.

♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** Several of your goals are achievable, but not necessarily in the way you envision. If you discover you can't get past the obstacles blocking your path, you'll go around them.

♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** The old adage "Experience is the best teacher" will be true in your case. When you discover you could once again repeat a mistake that cost you bitter moments, you'll circumvent it.

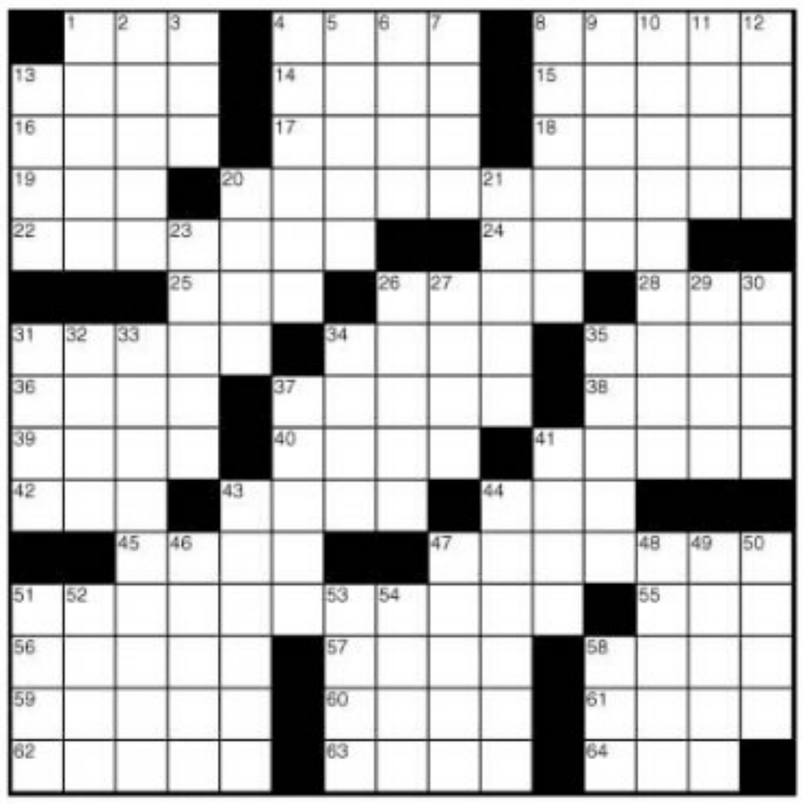
♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** Someone who considers you to be an easy mark is in for a rude awakening. When push comes to shove, you'll be extremely resourceful.

♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** Even though you'll be negotiating from a position of strength, you'll still be fair in your dealings. You'll go out of your way to make sure that both you and the other guy come out well.

♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** Service you render will be given both willingly and expertly. However, no one should expect a "freebie," because you value your work and the remuneration you deserve for it.

BERNICE BEDE OSOL

Across
1 "— -Tiki"
4 Concorde fleet of yore
8 Fluid rock
13 Assignment
14 Lamb's pen name
15 D-sharp alias
16 St. Louis structure
17 Hoodlum
18 Cutthroat or rainbow
19 Grassy field
20 Pinkish flower (2 wds.)
22 Is in awe
24 Prudent
25 Ego companions
26 Blueprint, briefly
28 — Mahal
31 Trudges along
34 Gin-fizz flavor
35 Nudge forward
36 Roundup gear
37 Fallback strategy (2 wds.)
38 Oaf
39 Numerical prefix
40 Diet soda, maybe
41 Poker stakes
42 Me, to Miss Piggy
43 — noire
44 Exec's degree
45 Giant star in Cetus
47 Afternoon naps
51 Concisely (3 wds.)
55 Lyric poem
56 Vitamin lead-in
57 Mournful cry
58 Piece of news
59 Stacks
60 "Rosamond" composer
61 Man Ray contemporary
62 Panache
63 Sugar source
64 Malt beverage



Down
1 China neighbor
2 Muppet grouch
3 Utmost degree
4 Calyx segments
5 Phony coins
6 Metallic sound
7 Quaff with sushi
8 Kilo system
9 1960's hairdos
10 Travel far and wide
11 Molokai neighbor
12 Business letter abbr.
13 It may be read
20 Autumn colors
21 Dork
23 Audio partner
26 Rock formed from shale
27 Cornbread
29 Shivery feeling
30 Hot tub features
31 Teen event
32 Plumb crazy
33 Best case
34 Gill opening
35 Arm bones
37 Make folds
41 "Green Mansions" hero
43 Minor injury
44 Birdseed
46 PC chip maker
47 Left Bank river
48 Demolish
49 "Rolling in the Deep" singer
50 Truck stop sight
51 Bratty kids
52 Soir follower
53 Mop
54 Tortoise rival
58 Wyo. neighbor

	8	3		4		7		
			9		1		3	
5			8				2	
		2					6	9
7			3		6			2
8	1					5		
	5				4			6
	4		2		5			
		9		6		4	8	

SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

		6	8	3				
7	9		1				6	
3	5			7				
6	2			9	1			
	4						3	
			4	6			1	5
				1			2	7
	7				5		9	1
				8	7	6		

SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

Solution to yesterday's crossword

S	P	A	R		U	H	H	U	H		T	A	D	A
L	E	N	I		B	I	O	T	A		O	L	I	N
A	S	I	F		O	L	D	E	R		M	I	N	K
W	O	L	F	G	A	L		P	U	B	L	I	S	H
			R	U	T				M	R	I			
H	A	H	A	S		C	A	P		A	N	S	E	L
O	L	A	F		H	A	L	L	E	Y		A	V	A
K	A	F	F	E	E	K	L	A	T	S	C	H	E	S
E	M	T		S	N	E	E	Z	E		H	I	R	T
D	O	S	E	S		D	N	A		D	E	B	T	S
		L	E	T				C	A	M				
I	M	P	O	S	E	D		M	A	T	I	N	E	E
L	E	A	P			R	I	S	E	N		S	O	A	P
K	A	L	E			R	A	T	I	O		E	R	S	E
S	L	E	D			A	Z	U	R	E		S	A	T	E

How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

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food&drink

What a Grape idea!

- This Urban shop is much more than your average liquor store
- Owner says all employees went through about 40 hours of wine tasting before the shop even opened

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

▶ TJ Douglas doesn't just want you to drink responsibly. He also wants you to drink progressively.

Halloween drink

Midori's Spider Kiss

- 1 part Midori Melon Liqueur
- 1 part SKYY Vodka
- Juice from ½ lemon
- Chocolate syrup
- Grenadine
- Chocolate dipped orange slice for garnish

Directions: Draw a chocolate web into a martini glass. Chill for a ghostly effect. Shake all ingredients and strain into glass. For a blood effect, drizzle grenadine down the side of the glass. Garnish with a chocolate-dipped orange slice.

THURSTY

LUKE O'NEIL
TWITTER: @LUKEONEIL47

All of the bars we cover in this space are great and all, but you really can't beat drinking at home. It's less expensive, you don't need to deal with drunk people — except yourself — and, more importantly, you don't need to have pants on to do it. What to drink though, and where to procure the goods? The new The Urban Grape, which opened in the South End late last month is a good place to start.

The second outpost of the popular Chestnut Hill location, owned by TJ and Hadley Douglas, is more than your average packie (as no one in the South End probably calls them anymore). Aside from wine, which is the focus with about 750 bottles, it's a veritable playground for the discerning boozehound with 55 sakes, 270 craft beer options and some 150 bottles of whiskey. The store also holds events, like a recent chef pop-up night that pitted chefs from Russell House and Gallows in a East Coast vs. West Coast hip-hop-themed cooking battle, with paired selections from the vaults including pumpkin beers, mezcal, wines, for each course. "We like to have fun here," says TJ Douglas.

It's not all fun, of course. The staff at the new store went through 40 hours of tasting and training with top wine educators prior to opening, he says. "We tasted about 400 wines in a week, so they're not just coming in as new staff — they're educated wine sellers."

An EnoRound Elite Tasting Machine allows customers to taste through wines to pinpoint a favorite. Wines are laid out in a progressive format, from light to heavy, 1-10, with 1 being light like skim milk in terms of body and mouth feel and being 10 like heavy cream. Sipping pours as you work your way up or down the scale with an on-staff guide makes the indecision of overabundance that we often encounter in a wine shop easier to swallow.

How it works

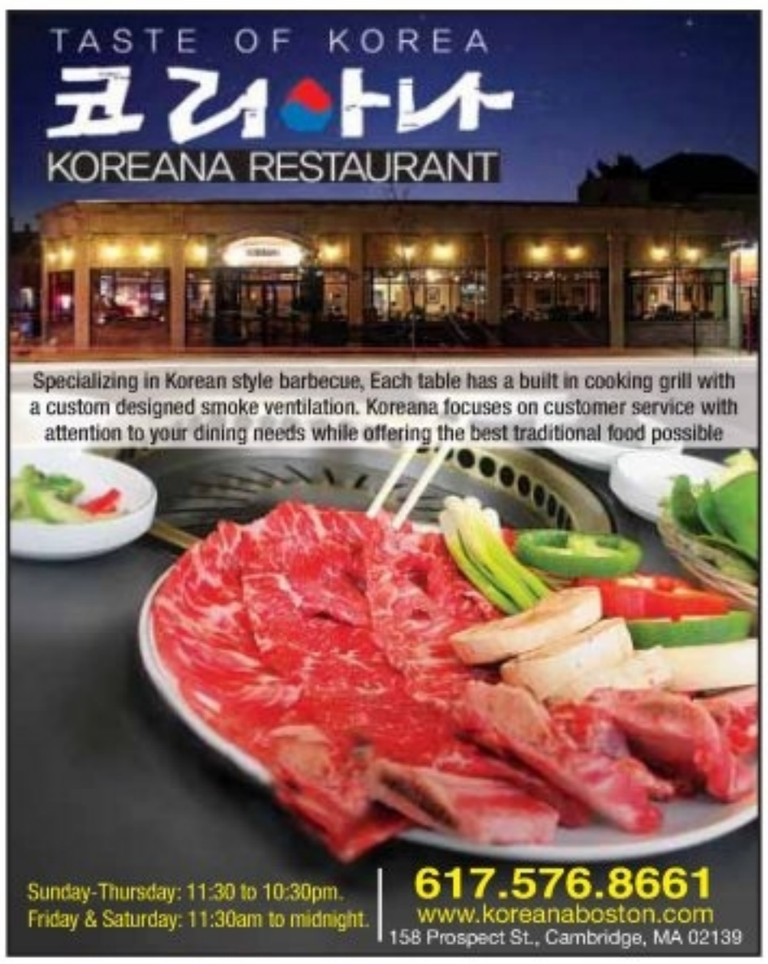
"Let's say you're tasting a sauvignon blanc from California, it might be a 3. If they like that they go to the 3 section, and they'll find that wine along with 60 other wines from different parts of the world, different grapes, prices and styles. It might lead you to a heavier Albarino," says Douglas. "It lets our clients' palates become more educated without us shoving information down their throats, which can be intimidating. We're using the machines to find out what they like and why they like it. It's an opportunity for us to speak in the same language."

Quoted

"We tasted about 400 wines in a week, so they're not just coming in as new staff — they're educated wine sellers."
TJ DOUGLAS

If you go

The Urban Grape
303 Columbus Ave., Boston
857-250-2509
www.theurbangrape.com



food&drink

Pay attention to the man behind the curtain

The Emerald Lounge feels like a trip to the land of Oz The reason that the food is so tasty is that Jim Cafarelli of Rustic Kitchen is a real restaurant wizard

Named in honor of Boston's beautiful Emerald Necklace, the Revere Hotel's **Emerald Lounge** is more Oz wizardry than nature. Opened this past spring, the snazzy room looks clubby, but is really a comfy place to socialize, drink (of course) and grab a bite from what seems a basic bar menu. But this is where wizardry comes in: The presentation is as practical as it is sophisticated. Wellfleet shooters in a piquant mignonette line up on a stand ready to slurp down; fish tacos — battered cod with salsa and avocado — sit on a wavy shaped steel tray that ensures pick up without spillage; the beef sliders have a larger bun than necessary to catch errant bits. Very clever.

It's all put together downstairs in **Rustic Kitchen**'s venue. This Italian restaurant adjacent to the property was perfectly placed to handle the hotel's breakfast, room service and lounge food concerns. However, Rustic Kitchen — which restaurant business veteran Jim Cafarelli (House of Blues, Todd English) started a decade ago in Faneuil Hall — is also a standalone theater district stalwart with reasonably priced, well-executed food.

Design-wise, Rustic and Emerald aren't comparable, but they share some menu items — plump shrimp in a thick batter with a coconut aioli, for instance. Rustic's lengthier menu has its lauded pizzas — the fig and prosciutto with goat cheese and mozzarella is still a bar-raiser — and pastas. Or choose a seasonal special like the tender beef stew ladled over sweet potato gnocchi and finished with shaved ricotta salata — a chewy, aged ricotta (lighter than Parmesan). Add just-cooked rabe for a crisp contrast and brisk tang. Upstairs, downstairs, function, form and flavor are equal partners here.

Nosh On

LINDA LABAN
LINDA.LABAN@METRO.US

If you go

Emerald Lounge
200 Stuart St., Boston
617-423-5700
www.emeraldultralounge.com
Entrees range from $10-$18.

Rustic Kitchen
210 Stuart St., Boston
617-457-2626
www.rustickitchen.biz
Entrees range from $17-$28.

▶ A club with great food? Now that's a horse of a different color!

Ruff ruff at Rustic

Dress up your dog and get your Oompa-loompa on: The Emerald Lounge's "Willy Wonka"-inspired Halloween party, the "Emerald Factory," takes place Wednesday and benefits local dog rescue nonprofit One Tail at a Time. (We know the Wicked Witch wasn't in "Willy Wonka," but we loved this pic.)

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Boo!

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www.precinctbar.com
This local band serves up an anxious, warbly indie-rock sound, moving from Slint-esque ambient mutterings to anthemic chords and impassioned existential yelps to creepy falsetto disco grooves like a strung-out hipster pacing in his bombed-out bedroom. They make us uncomfortable and nervy, but they're so good at it, you'll thank them for the catharsis.

Those Darlins

Sunday, 9 p.m.
Great Scott
1222 Comm. Ave., Boston
$12, 18+, 617-566-9014
www.greatscottboston.com
They did open for Best Coast this summer, but don't mistake this female-fronted Tennessee garage band for a reverb-heavy girl-group act. They certainly have none of the clingy ennui that goes along with that genre — no moping, just pure rock 'n' roll party-time fun to serve up with a charismatic attitude somewhere between snarl and snark. MATTHEW DINARO

▶ Those Darlins are, from left, Linwood Regensburg, Jessi Darlin and Nikki Darlin, no longer confused with "Darling Nikki" from the Prince song of the same name.

VETO & THEO

THE THINGS SHE 'PINES' FOR

Alison Sudol on the lost art of listening and how the new album by A Fine Frenzy required a lot of letting go

ANGELA KOHLER

▶ If you were in Alison Sudol's band, you'd have listened to her tell a "little story about a pine tree."

If you go

A Fine Frenzy
with Joshua Radin
Next Saturday, Nov. 3
The Orpheum
One Hamilton Place, Boston
$24-$38, 800-745-3000
www.livenation.com

Listening. It's a lost art. At least, Alison Sudol, who records under the name A Fine Frenzy, thinks so.

"There's a large part of listening that gets lost," she says. "Listening to the world, listening to the universe, and listening to what life is trying to tell you. We lose the sheer act of listening and the act of surrendering. There's a beauty in surrendering and allowing life to move through you, and letting go."

She says this observation informed her latest work.

"That's a big theme on the record," she says, " letting go."

That record, "Pines," is Los Angles-based Sudol's third, and it's accompanied by a book and a stop-motion short film. She calls "Pines," which is a spare, pretty rumination about a pining tree, a fable and a metaphor.

Though it's Sudol's story, she gives her band and producer Keefus Green much credit in realizing it on record.

"They brought so much energy, texture and sound," she says. "They brought their own creativity to it in a way that made the songs evolve in a way I didn't expect. That was another exercise in letting go."

But while she let go, they were listening: "At the beginning of each recording session, everyone would sit around me in a semi-circle and I'd tell them what was happening in the story and what kind of emotion to capture. I remember thinking how wonderful it was to see these glorious musicians listening so carefully to me telling my little story about a pine tree. It was lovely."

The other L word

Besides listening and letting go, there's another L word rooted in "Pines": loss. Sudol is all-aglow as she speaks to Metro from Seattle, which she calls her hometown, even though she left it when she was 5.

"I have tried to make places my home, put my roots there. But I never really felt that feeling again. This record was essentially a journey to stop pining and find what I was looking for, even if I didn't really know what that was."

LINDA LABAN
linda.laban@metro.us

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  (On sale Friday)
- **Concrete Blonde**
  Dec. 12, The Sinclair
  (On sale Friday)
- **Mission of Burma**
  Jan. 19, The Sinclair

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Ellie Goulding

(On sale Friday)
- **Ellie Goulding**
  Jan. 23, House of Blues
  (On sale Friday)
- **FUN.**
  Feb. 1, The Orpheum
  (On sale Friday)
- **Punch Brothers**
  With Anais Mitchell
  Feb. 16, House of Blues
  (On sale Friday)
- **Maroon 5**
  With Neon Trees, Owl City
  Feb. 17, Verizon Wireless Arena
  Manchester, N.H.
  (On sale Saturday)
- **The Saw Doctors**
  March 16, House of Blues
  (On sale Friday)
- **Local Natives**
  March 30, House of Blues
  (On sale Friday)
- **Jason Aldean**
  With Miranda Lambert, Jake Owen, Thomas Rhett
  July 13, Fenway Park
  (On sale Friday)

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▶ The Saw Doctors

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ON TV TODAY

WORLD SERIES

TIGERS AT GIANTS
8 P.M., FOX

Metro's NFL power rankings | by Mike Greger

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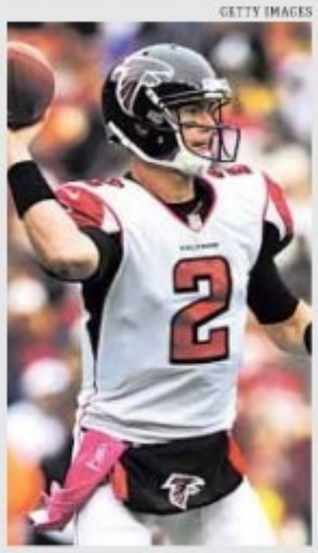

FALCONS (6-0)
We'll chill with the superlatives for a team coming off a bye week still undefeated. If there is one fatal flaw here, it could be Atlanta's run porous defense, which ranks 28th in the NFL. Better watch out this weekend, however. It's a trap game against the Eagles.

TEXANS (6-1)
Wade Phillips may never get another head coaching job. That might be a good thing. He may go down as the greatest defensive coordinator in history.

GIANTS (5-2)
You can't give Eli Manning the ball with time left on the clock in the fourth quarter — he'll make you pay every time. He's redefining clutch.

49ERS (5-2)
Starting to see why team pursued Peyton Manning in offseason. Alex Smith can be very average at times. That could pose a problem.

RAVENS (5-2)
Terrell Suggs looked nimble in his return, but the loss of Lardarius Webb is going to be very hard to overcome. Texans shredded secondary.

BEARS (5-1)
The offense needs to play up to their talented defense — and learn how to close out games. If that happens — and Jay Cutler's ribs are fine — watch out.

VIKINGS (5-2)
Quarterback needs to catch up with suffocating, ball-hawking defense — or hope that Adrian Peterson can carry the weight of the Twin Cities.

PACKERS (4-3)
Aaron Rodgers was a portrait of precision/perfection for a second straight week going 30-of-37 for 342 yards.

PATRIOTS (4-3)
They might be the most underachieving team in the entire NFL. Yet, somehow, Tom Brady and the gang are in first place. Beating the Rams this weekend is no guarantee.

SEAHAWKS (4-3)
Last week Russell Wilson was the difference. This past weekend, he couldn't get out of his own way. The rookie decides Seattle's fate.

CARDINALS (4-3)
Three straight losses for the suddenly slumping Cards. Anemic offense ranks 31st in the league. If Arizona was a stock, it's plummeting. Hopefully you sold early.

EAGLES (3-3)
Andy Reid is a perfect 13-0 when his team is coming off the bye week, and they are doing that Sunday vs. Atlanta.

BRONCOS (3-3)
The boys finally look like they have picked up Peyton Manning's orchestra routine at the line. They're quickly emerging as favorites in the AFC West.

STEELERS (3-3)
This might be Pittsburgh head coach Mike Tomlin's most impressive year yet. Injuries have piled up, but they're surviving.

REDSKINS (3-4)
Yes, we have Washington ahead of a few teams with better records. Why? The RG3 factor.

CHARGERS (3-3)
Poor Norv Turner can't even catch a break on his bye week. The Chargers were investigated for using an extra sticky substance on their hands to help hold onto the ball.

DOLPHINS (3-3)
Did we tell you how much we like this team? As long as Kanye West doesn't put a hit out on Reggie Bush, the 'Fins will keep rising.

COWBOYS (3-3)
They delivered on a must-win game, albeit against a terrible Panthers squad. The death of owner Jerry Jones's mother might provide a new rallying cry.

COLTS (3-3)
Ground and pound. Ground and pound. Indy ran for a season-high 148 yards, led by Vick Ballard and ... wait for it ... Andrew Luck.

NY JETS (3-4)
Fought hard in what has been called a moral victory over the Patriots. Unfortunately for Rex Ryan and Co., there are no moral victories in the NFL.

BENGALS (3-4)
Andy Dalton's one mistake, the pass that slipped, hit his lineman and was picked off, might have been the season for the up-and-down Bengals.

RAMS (3-4)
Red zone troubles and a slowed pass rush have St. Louis staring down the barrel of a three-game losing streak.

SAINTS (2-4)
Joe Vitt is off suspension and ready to take the head coaching steering wheel. Sean Payton's handpicked fill-in will provide spark, especially on the defensive side.

TITANS (3-4)
What did we say last week? Keep feeding Chris Johnson. Point taken. The dynamic back ran for 195 yards and two scores.

BILLS (3-4)
Losses are piling up and players are questioning each other's intensity. "You watch film and not everybody was playing hard every snap," Chris Kelsay said. Oh snap.

BUCCANEERS (2-4)
Still trying to understand that call on Mike Williams. So, you are allowed to push a receiver out of bounds in the back of the end zone?

LIONS (2-4)
Sloppy, sloppy group averaging 7.8 penalties per game, including 9.8 on the road. Not helping them at all is Matthew Stafford's 55.2 total QB rating.

RAIDERS (2-4)
A win is a win, even if it's against the lowly Jacksonville Jags.

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Pats looking to broil Rams

Team heads to London tonight St. Louis already in England Crucial to head into bye week above .500

The Patriots are away — far away — this Sunday when they face off against the Rams.

In an effort to globalize the game of football, the NFL has scheduled games overseas in London and that's where the Patriots will hope to put a royal beat-down on the Rams.

But a trip across the pond can offer a lot for a team. We saw the Celtics bond overseas in 2007, and they went back this season. Now the Pats head there — albeit in a completely different situation and shorter time period. Even so, Tom Brady sees it as a chance to come together.

"I think there's definitely an element of that, yeah," Brady said. "Yeah, I think you're together for extended periods of time, which is always fun. People are away from all their other commitments, certainly. At a home game, there are a lot of commitments that different players have, so when you go away, sometimes it's really nice for the players to get some rest, to get some extra preparation, that extra time with your coaches. On this particular trip, we have more time than that."

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Sam Bradford

The Patriots will take the red eye flight tonight. The Rams, however, are already in London. Rams coach Jeff Fisher elected to "put the travel behind us and the time difference behind us and get settled."

Brady and the Pats hope to do the same upon arrival.

"We're leaving a few days early and it's going the opposite direction, so I think it's going to be important to get there and kind of get used to the environment a little bit," Brady said.

Bad 'bow

Patriots linebacker Jerod Mayo missed practice yesterday with an elbow injury.

Other Patriots who did not practice were Steve Gregory, Brandon Bolden and Ras-I Dowling.

It's a big game, too. If the Patriots bring home a victory, they'll be 5-3 heading into their bye week. It may not be the record everybody envisioned, but they'd be in first place in the division with one of the best records in the AFC. If they lose, though, look out. At 4-4, they'll want to either bury themselves deep inside the Gillette Stadium walls, or go somewhere far, far away.

"This is a good team that provides a lot of tough challenges and we've already lost to two of these NFC teams, which they've actually beaten," Brady said.

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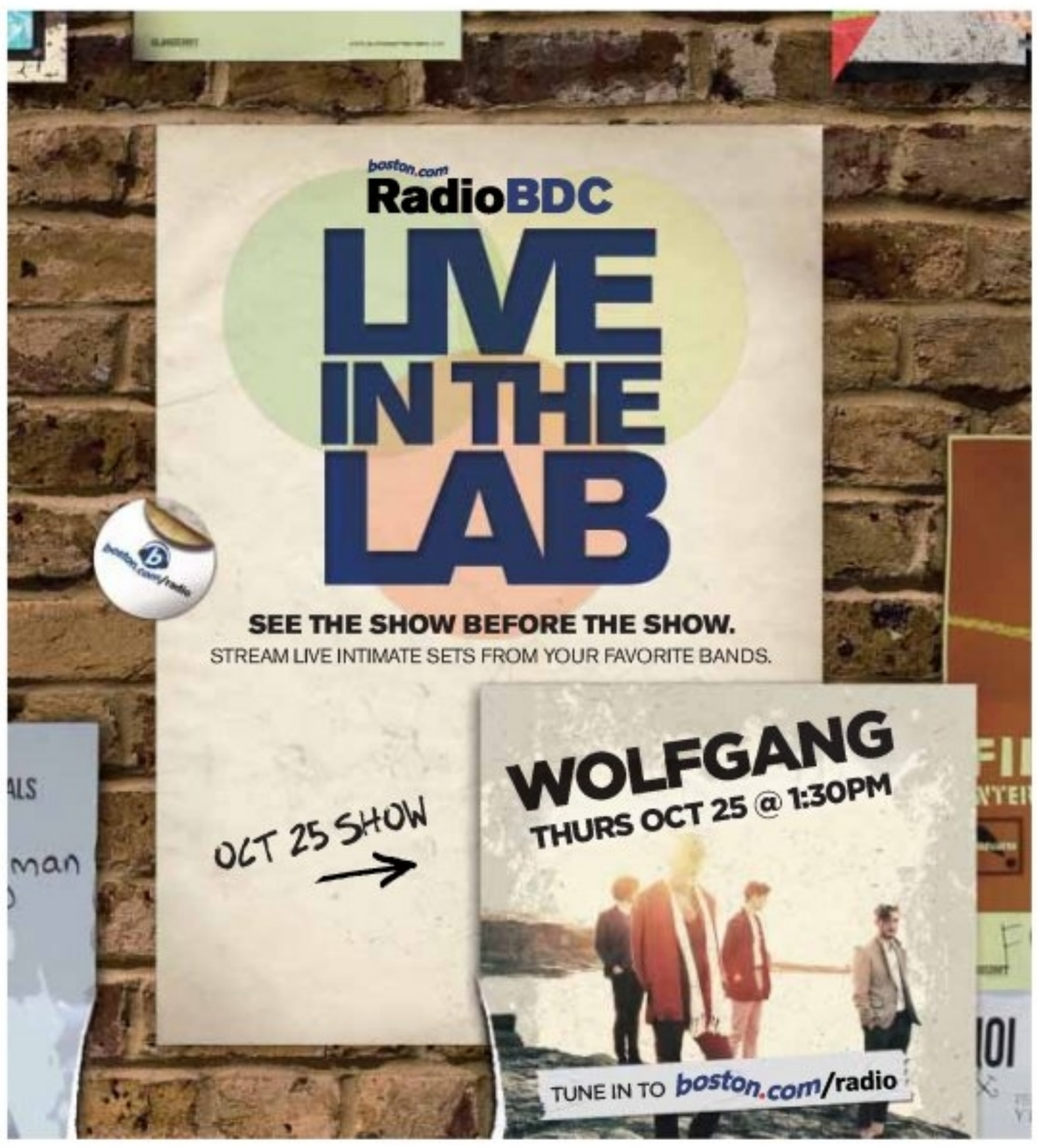

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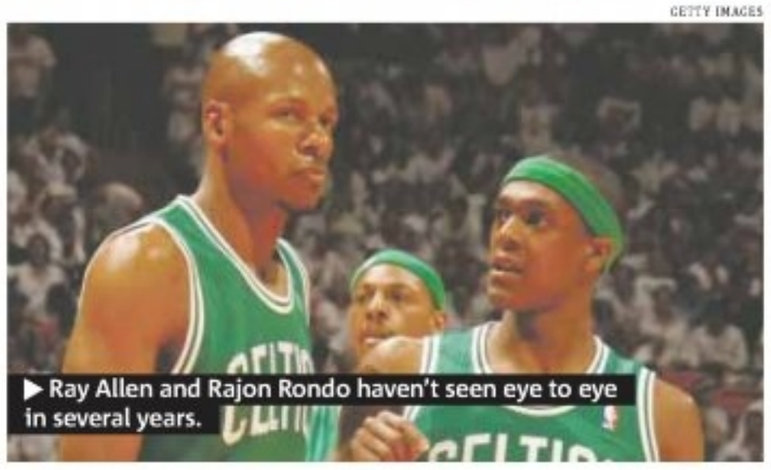

▶ Ray Allen and Rajon Rondo haven't seen eye to eye in several years.

Celts look to deflect Allen talk

Former Celtic Ray Allen made headlines last week when he said that part of the reason he and Rajon Rondo had a fractured relationship was that he encouraged the Celtics point guard to mend the relationships he had with head coach Doc Rivers and president of basketball operations Danny Ainge while a potential 2009 trade involving both players was being discussed with Phoenix.

"For some reason, I guess he thought that ... I had something against him, or there were some issues," Allen told The Miami Herald. "And I have no issues with him. I won with him."

At practice yesterday, Rondo and Rivers refused to get into a preseason tit-for-tat with the Miami Heat sharpshooter.

"I don't know what happened," Rondo said about Allen's comments to WEEI.com. "I've just been focusing on hitting the gym. I haven't read any papers or seen anything on the news."

Rivers said, "We're just going to let Ray keep talking. It's easier."

The C's visit Miami on Tuesday for their season opener.

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Grand Circle

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Due to our continued growth we are seeking customer-focused individuals to join Grand Circle Corporation

Travel Sales Counselors

Would you like to earn $60,000+ a year? We are seeking Inside Sales Travel Counselors with strong customer relationship and sales skills. In this fast-paced, inbound call center sales role, you will strive to achieve sales and quality goals as you sell Grand Circle's vacations to all corners of the world. We provide a solid base salary and sales incentive plan (commission and bonuses).

Passion for Travel & Prior International Travel Experience Required.
Prior Call Center and Sales Experience Required.

Customer Service Associates

Work with our Traveler Support Team in our dynamic inbound call center. You will build relationships with our travelers, converse about far away destinations, and send our travelers on the journey of a lifetime. You will assist our clients by answering their questions regarding their trips and resolving their issues via phone and email.

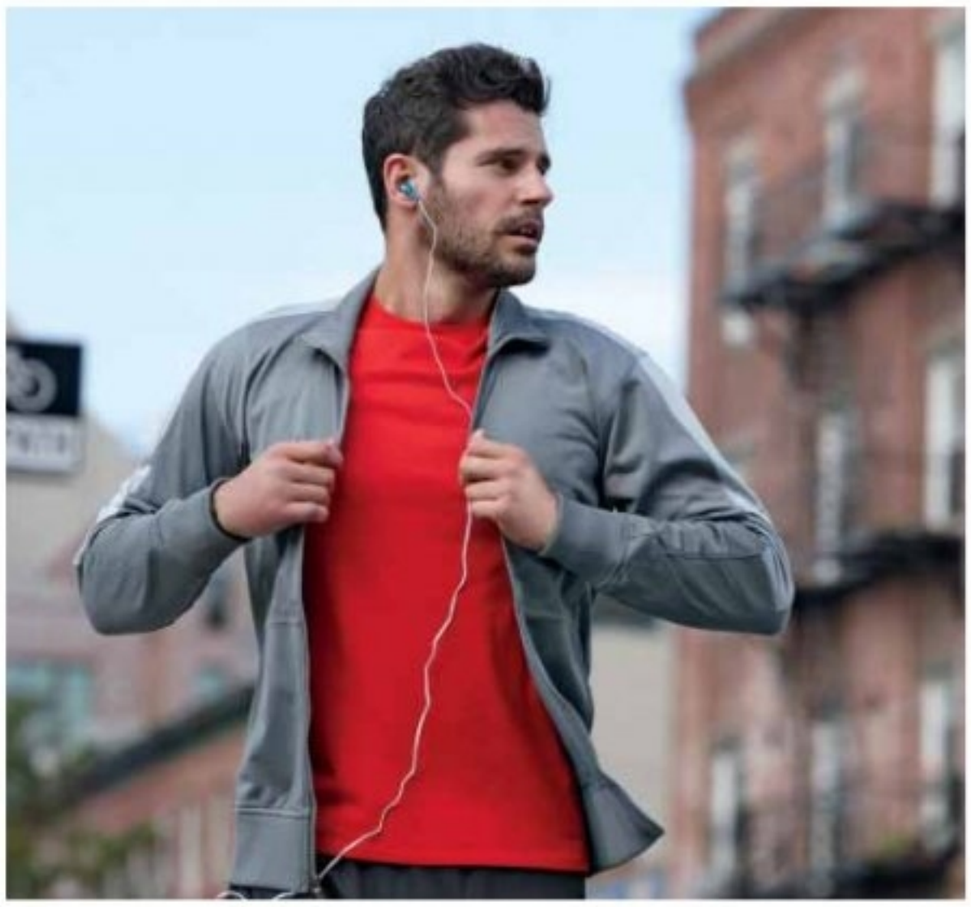
Passion for Travel & Prior International Travel Experience Preferred.
Prior Call Center Experience Preferred.

Grand Circle Corporation is a premier direct marketer and the world leader in international travel, adventure and discovery for Americans over 50. Headquartered in Boston, MA, we are a $500M global enterprise with 22 regional offices worldwide that employs more than 2,000 associates.

Please visit **www.gct.com/careers** to apply

Call center located: GCC Corporate Headquarters • 347 Congress St. Boston, MA

Accessible by MBTA-Two blocks from South Station



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